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Letter dated 4 September 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I am writing, upon instructions from my Government, to draw your attention to the recent illegal visit of the newly elected President of the Republic of Turkey, Recep Tayip Erdogan, to the occupied part of the territory of the Republic of Cyprus and the statements made thereon.

At the outset, let me note that this illegal visit has been the first visit made by Mr. Erdogan abroad since the assumption of his new duties, which is indicative of Ankara's unrepentant approach to the illegal occupation of the territory of an independent and sovereign Member State of the United Nations. Such symbolism cannot be overlooked.

This visit served as a reminder that the goodwill that should have prevailed throughout the negotiations for a solution to the Cyprus problem and on the eve of the assumption of duties by the new Special Adviser of the Secretary-General for Cyprus and his first visit to the island was lacking.

The positions expressed by Mr. Erdogan, that the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus "is a modern and democratic state" and that, as part of his personal schedule, he will pursue its "stance in the international arena", are indicative of an anachronistic, deliberate policy to assist and upgrade the illegal secessionist entity in the occupied part of Cyprus, contrary to Security Council resolutions and international law. It is even more regrettable that such positions are expressed when the ink of the joint declaration between the leaders of the two communities of last February has hardly dried, while Ankara professes, *urbi et orbi*, its intention to contribute to a solution of the Cyprus problem.

Finally, I am compelled to note the obvious contradiction between the actions of the Turkish Head of State on the one hand and that country's aspirations to get elected as a non-permanent member of the Security Council on the other. Such an eventuality would certainly be a contradiction in terms, to say the least.

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I should be grateful if you could have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 42, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Nicholas **Emiliou**